

October 27, 2018

Dear ARDC:

I want to inform you about an incident that took place on January 26, 2018. I am not sure if the attorney behaved improperly or not but I thought the incident was worth reporting to you.

On January 26, 2018, I emailed attorney Jeffrey C. Hammes a very personal email with very private details in it asking for legal advice. In the email I inform him that I have been threatened by a very powerful attorney named Bill Voge. At the time I emailed Mr. Hammes, Bill Voge was working for Latham and Watkins, a law firm that was listed as the number one law firm in the world in terms of revenue. Mr. Hammes's law firm was listed as the number two law firm in the world. They are both billion dollar law firms. I thought I would be safe going to Mr. Hammes because he was a competitor of Bill Voge.

On January 26, 2018, the General Counsel at Mr. Hammes's law firm replied to the email I sent Mr. Hammes letting me know that their firm does not handle cases like mine. Mr. Hammes then forwards the private email I sent him to Bill Voge, the very person I told him I was afraid of. He forwarded it on January 26, 2018, the same day I sent it to him. Bill Voge then starts texting my husband letting him know that he was going to have me put in jail for emailing Jeff Hammes and he begins threatening me again. Mr. Voge was fired from his law firm on March 21, 2018 because of his threats towards me.

I believe it was unethical for Mr. Hammes to forward a private email I sent him to the exact person I was complaining about. There was no disclaimer on his firm's website that would warn me-or any other potential client- that my email to an attorney would not be confidential.

Sincerely,

Andrea Vassell